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that my colleague, Professor Heidel, has shown on what insecure foundations Professor Burnet's view rests¹; and, at the cost of some inconsistency, he ignores entirely Heidel's important discussion of the Anaximandrian ἀρχή².

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY. JOSEPH WILLIAM HEWITT.

A NEW CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION IN PHILADELPHIA

AN APPEAL AND AN INVITATION

Repeatedly during the last ten years there has been an urgent call to unite the classical forces of Philadelphia and its vicinity into some sort of Association that should strengthen their cause in every way possible. At the request of several prominent teachers, the President of the Philadelphia Classical Club, the largest existing combination of local classicists but composed only of men, appointed last November an organizing committee from that body which, after enlargement through the addition of others who were not members of the Club, should undertake the task. This seemed to be the most impersonal way to initiate the project. Care was taken that the men and the women selected should represent justly and adequately public and private schools, colleges, and normal schools both within and outside of Philadelphia. On the committee are representatives both of teachers of the Classics and of those who while teaching a different subject or not teaching at all are staunch supporters of Greek and Latin. This accords with the basic spirit of the entire undertaking, which is not for the aggrandizement of individuals or institutions but to promote in our system of education liberal studies and more particularly the Classics. Those that eventually serve the Association as officers can look forward only to self-sacrificing labor and the satisfaction of fighting shoulder to shoulder for a cause for which they could formerly contend only impotently as individuals.

Greek and Latin are essential elements of a cultural education for a large number of boys and girls in every community. At present their legitimate claims are not satisfied nor even fairly considered in many quarters, partly because public opinion is not sufficiently instructed, partly because the rightful demands of the majority have been pressed so dominantly and noisily that the voice of the minority is barely heard. To effect a proper change in public sentiment, we must gain the active alliance of all citizens who are grateful for the classical training that they received in their youth and desire it to be duplicated in the present and in coming generations that a certain type of cultured gentleman and intellectual leader may not perish from Ameri-

can civilization. This appeal, therefore, is to a much wider circle than those who are merely professionally interested.

The activities of the Society will naturally assume various forms. Thus, the attention of the general public can be gained by such exhibitions of 'Living Latin' as are now in vogue in many enterprising schools, and by the presentation of the life, thought and material remains of antiquity in attractive lectures, illustrated by the lantern, where advisable. Moreover, such discussions of scholastic topics could be arranged as would interest and invite to participation even the layman.

Much more obvious, of course, are the possibilities for the teachers who ally themselves with this movement. Besides the mental stimulus that comes from every new contact with the scholarship and the pedagogical skill of others, there is the social pleasure and advantage of knowing better every year other workers in one's own field. Then, too, the best source of information about professional vacancies and the candidates available for them is among one's friends. Young teachers in particular would profit by a wider acquaintanceship. As a rule, the individual who subscribes to no classical journal, and never lends a hand at any meeting of fellow-workers, but with self-satisfied selfishness performs merely his routine of daily work, pays the penalty by obscurity, intellectual stagnation and pedagogic inefficiency. In view of the fact that it is commonly the overworked men and women who are most active in all that makes for the common good, the plea of being too busy is rarely an acceptable excuse. Nor can even that other useful excuse of poverty avail in this instance; for the membership fee of the new society will be hardly more than nominal. In the neighborhood of Philadelphia, therefore, the isolation of any classical teacher or of any friend of Greek and Latin will in the future be wholly wilful. There are plans for meetings of a largely social character, such as luncheons, informal receptions, round table conferences and an annual dinner, and a determined, organized effort will be made to make all who attend any of these cordially welcome and rapidly acquainted with one another.

Under the able guidance of the Chairman, Professor Walter Dennison, of Swarthmore College, the Organizing Committee and its sub-committees have held many lengthy sessions, and can now definitely announce that the first meetings of the new Society will be held on the morning and afternoon of Saturday, March 14, at the Drexel Institute in Philadelphia. The exact program will be published in a later number of THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY. Any suggestions as to its character or with reference to the lines of endeavor that the new Society shall eventually pursue will be gratefully received by the above mentioned Chairman.

¹In a paper entitled *Περὶ Φύσεως*, in the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Volume 43, Number 4.

²For this paper, entitled *On Anaximander*, see *Classical Philology* 7.212-234.